

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant:

TONKIN ET AL.

CASE NO: AD 6551 US DIV 2

APPLICATION NO: UNKNOWN

GROUP ART UNIT: UNKNOWN

FILED: CONCURRENTLY HEREWITH

EXAMINER: UNKNOWN

FOR: WATER PURIFICATION APPARATUS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants submit herewith 1) PTO Form 1449 identifying U.S. Patent No. 5,534,150 to Bastioli et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,493,870 to Vrouwenraets et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,725,481 to Ostapchenko, U.S. Patent No. 5,348,691 to McElroy et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,657,577 to Rodder, U.S. Patent No. 4,978,505 to Kertz, U.S. Patent No. 4,832,690 to Kuu, U.S. Patent No. 3,415,719 to Telkes, U.S. Patent No. 5,890,703 to Kaus et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,182,582 to Youval et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,517,316 to Mason et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,698,372 to Moss, 5,374,138 to Byles, U.S. Patent No. 4,926,585 to Dreschel, U.S. Patent No. 5,595,662 to Sanderson, U.S. Patent No. 5,753,008 to Friesen et al., U.S. Patent No. 2,904,479 to Mccord et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,453,610 to Tonkin et. al., U.S. Patent No. 6,484,439 to Tonkin et. al., U.S. Patent No. 4,769,273 to Hoeschele et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,547,586 to Halperin et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,920,105 to Zelman, U.S. Patent No. 3,858,499 to Scott, U.S. Patent No. 3,648,845 to Riley, USSR Patent No. 164,8291 A1, FR Patent No. 2 764 255, DE Patent No. 29 08 479 to Industrie-Wert Beteiligungsgesellschaft mBh, EP Patent No. 0 521 726 A to Japan Gore Tex, Inc., EP Patent No. 0 808 657 A2 to Heraeus Instr. GmbH & Co. KG, WO Patent No. 95 03033 to Pfizer, Inc., EP Patent No. 0 154 971 to Hilmer Hartwig, EP Patent No. 0 238 941 to Sick Optik Elektronik Erwin, DE Patent No. 40 24 405 to Meulen Alfred V D, WO Patent No.

95/24260 to Schneider, GB Patent No. 2 265 536 to Davies, EP Patent No. 0 268 556 to Orbisphere Corp., the PCT International Search Report dated 9/17/1999, Patent Abstracts of Japan, E. Korngold et al., "Water desalination by pervaporation with hollow fiber membranes", Desalination, volume 107, no. 2, (1996) 121-129 and ASTM Designation: E96-95, Standard Test Methods for Water Vapor Transmission of Materials, May 1995, pages 719-726, which the Examiner may consider material to examination of this application, as well as, 2) legible copies of the U.S. Patent No. 6,453,610 to Tonkin et. al., U.S. Patent No. 6,484,439 to Tonkin et. al., U.S. Patent No. 4,769,273 to Hoeschele et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,547,586 to Halperin et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,920,105 to Zelman, U.S. Patent No. 3,858,499 to Scott, and U.S. Patent No. 3,648,845 to Riley.

U.S. Patent No. 5,890,703 to Kaus et al. is cited herein as the english language counterpart to EP 0 808 657 A2 to Heraeus Instr. GmbH & Co. KG.

As this application is a divisional of U.S. application No. 09/878,886, filed June 11, 2001, which is a continuation of U.S. application No. 09/250,776, filed February 12, 1999, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. application No. 09/019,287, filed February 5, 1998, Applicants have not enclosed legible copies of U.S. Patent No. 5,534,150 to Bastioli, et al. and U.S. Patent No. 4,493,870 to Vrouenraets, et al. because pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.98 (d) these references were previously cited by Examiner A. Fortuna in earlier U.S. Application No. 09/019,287, this earlier application is properly identified in the attached IDS, and this earlier application is relied on for an earlier effective filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

Applicants have also not enclosed legible copies of U.S. Patent No. 5,595,662 to Sanderson, U.S. Patent No. 5,753,008 to Friesen et al., and U.S. Patent No. 2,904,479 to Mccord et al. because pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.98 (d) these references were previously cited by Examiner A. Fortuna in earlier U.S. Application No. 09/878,886, this earlier application is properly identified in the attached IDS, and this earlier application is relied on for an earlier effective filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

Applicants' have not enclosed legible copies of U.S. Patent No. 4,725,481 to Ostapchenko, USSR Patent No. 1648291 A1, FR Patent No. 2 746 255, DE Patent No. 29 08 479 to Industrie-Wert Beteiligungsgesellschaft mBh and E. Korngold et al., "Water desalination by pervaporation with hollow fiber membranes", Desalination, volume 107, no. 2, (1996) 121-129 because pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.98 (d),

Applicants previously submitted legible copies of these references to the Office in earlier U.S. Patent Application No. 09/019,287, this earlier application is properly identified in the attached IDS, this earlier application is relied on for an earlier effective filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120, and the IDS submitted in this earlier application complied with section (a) through (c) of 37 CFR 1.98.

Applicants have also not enclosed legible copies of ASTM Designation: E96-95, Standard Test Methods for Water Vapor Transmission of Materials, May 1995, pages 719-726 because pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.98 (d), Applicants previously submitted legible copies of this reference to the Office in the earlier U.S. Patent Application No. 09/250,776, this earlier application is properly identified in the attached IDS, this earlier application is relied on for an earlier effective filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120, and the IDS submitted in this earlier application complied with section (a) through (c) of 37 CFR 1.98.

Finally, Applicants have not enclosed legible copies of U.S. Patent No. 5,348,691 to McElroy et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,657,577 to Rodder, U.S. Patent No. 4,978,505 to Kertz, U.S. Patent No. 4,832,690 to Kuu, U.S. Patent No. 3,415,719 to Telkes, U.S. Patent No. 5,890,703 to Kaus et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,182,582 to Youval et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,517,316 to Mason et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,698,372 to Moss, 5,374,138 to Byles, U.S. Patent No. 4,926,585 to Dreschel, EP Patent No. 0 521 726 A to Japan Gore Tex, Inc., EP Patent No. 0 808 657 A2 to Heraeus Instr. GmbH & Co. KG, WO Patent No. 95 03033 to Pfizer, Inc., EP Patent No. 0 154 971 to Hartwig, EP Patent No. 0 238 941 to Sick Optik Elektronik Erwin, DE Patent No. 40 24 405 to Meulen Alfred V D, WO Patent No. 95/24260 to Schneider, GB Patent No. 2 265 536 to Davies, EP Patent No. 0 268 556 to Orbisphere Corp., the PCT International Search Report, or the Patent Abstracts of Japan because pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.98 (d), Applicants previously submitted legible copies of these references to the Office in the earlier U.S. Patent Application No. 09/878,886, this earlier application is properly identified in the attached IDS, this earlier application is relied on for an earlier effective filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120, and the IDS submitted in this earlier application complied with section (a) through (c) of 37 CFR 1.98.

Applicants also bring to the attention of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office the following U.S. application attached hereto, which has been allowed but not yet issued:

Application No.	Atty. Docket	Filing Date	Inventor
10/210,265	AD-6641 DIV	08/01/2002	Mark Christopher Tonkin et al.


Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.


This statement should not be construed as a representation that an exhaustive search has been made, or that there does not exist information more material to the examination of the present patent application. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will review art of record in all 35 U.S.C. § 120 priority documents.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

Applicants do not believe there is currently a fee due, but if there is any such fee due, which have not been accounted for, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 04-1928 (E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company).

Respectfully submitted,

By   
Arne R. Jarnholm  
Reg. No.: 30,396  
Phone No. 302 992-2396  
Fax No. 302 992-3257

  
Date: 11-28-03

Form PTO-1449	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney Docket No. AD-6551 US DIV 2	Application No. <b>UNKNOWN</b> (a divisional of U.S. application No. 09/878,886, filed June 11, 2001, which is a continuation of U.S. application No. 09/250,776 filed 2/12/1999, which is a continuation-in- part of U.S. application No. 09/019,287, filed 2/5/1998)
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>		Filing Date: CONCURRENTLY HEREWITH	
		First Named Inventor: Mark Tonkin et al.	
		Examiner Name: UNKNOWN	Art Group Unit: UNKNOWN

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Cite No.	Office	Document Number	Kind Code	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication	Pages, Cols., Lines where, Relevant Passages Appear
		US	5,534,150		Bastioli et al.	7/9/1996	
		US	4,493,870		Vrouenraets et al.	1/15/1985	
		US	4,725,481		Ostapchenko	2/16/1988	
		US	5,348,691		McElroy et al.	9/20/1994	
		US	5,657,577		Rodder	8/19/1997	
		US	4,978,505		Kertz	12/18/1990	
		US	4,832,690		Kuu	5/23/1989	
		US	3,415,719		Telkes	12/10/1968	
		US	5,890,703 (english language counterpart of EP 0 808 657 A2 cited herein)		Kaus et al.	4/6/1999	
		US	4,182,582		Youval et al.	01/08/1990	
		US	4,517,316		Mason et al.	05/14/1985	
		US	4,698,372		Moss	10/06/1987	
		US	5,374,138		Byles	12/20/1994	
		US	4,926,585		Dreschel	05/22/1990	
		US	5,595,662		Sanderson	01/21/1997	
		US	5,753,008		Friesen et al.	05/19/1998	
		US	2,904,479		Mccord et al.	09/15/1959	
		US	6,453,610		Tonkin et al.	9/24/2002	
		US	6,484,439		Tonkin et al.	11/26/2002	
		US	4,769,273		Hoeschele et al.	09/06/1988	

		US	5,547,586		Halperin et al.	08/20/1996	
		US	4,920,105		Zelman	04/24/1990	
		US	3,858,499		Scott	01/07/1975	
		US	3,648,845		Riley	3/14/1972	

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Cite No.	Office	Document Number	Kind Code	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication	Pages, Cols., Lines where, Relevant Passages Appear	T
		USSR	164,8291 A1			5/15/1991		
		FR	2 746 255			9/26/1997		
		DE	29 08 479		Industrie-Wert Beteiligungsgesellschaft mbH	8/18/1980		
		EP	0 521 726 A		Japan Gore Tex, Inc.	1/7/1993		
		EP	0 808 657 A2 (english language counterpart U.S. Patent No. 5,890,703 submitted herewith)		Heraeus Instr GmbH & Co. KG	11/26/1997		
		WO	95 03033		Pfizer, Inc.	2/2/1995		
		EP	0 154 971	B1	Hilmer Hartwig	09/18/1995		
		EP	0 238 941	B1	Sick Optik Elektronik Erwin	09/30/1987		
		DE	40 24 405	A1	Meulen Alfred V D	02/06/1992		
		WO	95/24260	A1	Schneider	09/14/1995		
		GB	2 265 536	A	Davies	10/06/1993		
		EP	0 268 556	B1	Orbisphere Corp.	05/25/1988		

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	PCT International Search Report dated 9/17/1999.
	Patent Abstracts of Japan
	E. Korngold et al., "Water desalination by pervaporation with hollow fiber membranes", Desalination, volume 107, no. 2, (1996) 121-129.
	ASTM Designation: E96-95, Standard Test Methods for Water Vapor Transmission of Materials, May 1995, pages 719-726.
EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.